

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 219091

13

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

IO-14 AID-20 IGA-02 NEA-10 EB-11 ARA-16 CU-04 /188 R

DRAFTED BY:EA/P:STAFF

APPROVED BY:EA/P:AHROSEN

----- 053410

R 062355Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

USSAGE NAKHON PHNOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COVARD

UNCLAS STATE 219091

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 219091

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 6, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. CORDDRY (SUN) REPORTS DEPUTY SEC RUSH AND DEPUTY SECDEF CLEMENTS APPEARANCE BEFORE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE TO URGE SWIFT APPROVAL OF PRES.' EMERGENCY AID REQUEST FOR 2 BILLION DOLLARS FOR ISRAEL AND 200 MILLION DOLLARS FOR CAMBODIA. BOTH SOUGHT TO PUT CAMBODIA REQUEST IN SAME CONTEXT AS AID FOR ISRAEL - HELP FOR SMALL COUNTRY RESISTING EXTERNAL ATTACK. CLEMENTS WAS "POSITIVE" THAT GKR COULD NOT SURVIVE KI OFFENSIVE SUPPORTED BY NVN WITHOUT THE REQUESTED 200 MILLION DOLLARS IN MATERIEL. BOTH SAID OFFENSIVE COULD COME WITH DRY SEASON.

2. FANK HITS EAST MEKONG BANK WHERE KI HAVE DISLODGED GKR UNITS NEAR PP. FIELD REPORTS SAY FANK TROOPS IN AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT AND HEAVY FIGHTING RECAPTURED MEKONG TOWNS OF PREK LUONG AND PREK AMPIL, 4-5 MILES NORTH OF PP, AND MOVED ON TO OTHER ENEMY-HELD RIVER VILLAGES. HEAVY FIGHTING REPORTED 11 MILES NORTH OF PP ON WEST MEKONG BANK. FANK UNIT SAYS IT REPELLED KI ASSAULT 7 MILES SOUTH OF PP. SITUATION REMAINS SERIOUS AT VIHEAR SUOR, 15 MILES NE (REUTER; WP; AP, PHINQ; CSM; UPI, NYT).

3. GKR MOUNTS RESCUE OPERATION FOR DEFENDERS PUSHED OUT OF TRAM KHNAR, 22 MILES SW OF PP, WHO HAVE NOT REACHED GKR LINES AT NEARBY KOMPONG TRAM. FEARS EXPRESSED THAT TRAM KHNAR GARRISON COMMANDER CAPTURED. KI RADIO SAYS WEAPONS CAPTURED AT TRAM KHNAR WOULD BE USED AGAINST SRANG, 7 MILES AWAY, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER ENEMY PRESSURE FOR SEVERAL DAYS (UPI, NYT; REUTER; AP, PHINQ).

4. 2 RIVER CONVOYS WITH 1200 TONS OF AMMO, FUEL AND FOOD REACH ISOLATED KOMPONG THOM, 75 MILES NORTH OF PP. FANK REPORTS IT KILLED 13 KI AND GAINED 4 MILES UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 219091

IN DRIVE TO CLEAR ROUTE 5 TO BATTAMBANG AT CUT 42 MILES NW OF PP (REUTER).

5. TERRORIST GRENADE IN CROWDED DOWNTOWN PP MARKET KILLS 2, WOUNDS 9 (REUTER).

6. AP VIENTIANE REPORTS SOUVANNA PHOUMA STRONGLY DEFENDED EFFORTS TO REACH RECONCILIATION WITH PL BEFORE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, IN RESPONSE TO ASSEMBLY REQUEST FOR REPORT ON C-F AND PROTOCOLS. SOUVANNA REJECTED SUGGESTIONS THAT HE HAD GIVEN IN TO COMMUNIST PRESSURE IN AGREEING TO WHAT SOME CONSIDER AN OVERLY-LARGE PL GARRISON IN VIENTIANE.

7. MARKHAM FROM SAIGON QUOTES ARVN SPOKESMAN THAT GVN PLANES STRAFED AND BOMBED NVA AROUND LOST OUTPOSTS OF BU PRANG AND BU BONG NEAR KHMER BORDER, AND ONLY FEW SURVIVORS TREKKING OUT. AIRCRAFT WITH REINFORCEMENTS CRASHED FOR UNKNOWN REASONS ON APPROACH TO QUANG DUC, KILLING 29. MARKHAM SAYS FOREIGN MILITARY ANALYSTS AT SAIGON SEE LOST OUTPOSTS AS NOT SIGNIFICANT SINCE THEY WERE IN LARGELY HOSTILE AREA, AND BELIEVE COMMUNISTS ATTACKED TO CONSOLIDATE INFILTRATION CORRIDORS AND SUPPLY LINES. PRG MILITARY SPOKESMAN IN SAIGON ACKNOWLEDGES ATTACK, SAYS IT FOLLOWED ORDER TO RETAKE TERRITORY SEIZED BY GVN SINCE C-F; DOES NOT KNOW IF ORDER MEANS FRESH FIGHTING ELSEWHERE. PRG SPOKESMAN INSISTS CAMPS WERE OCCUPIED ILLEGALLY AFTER C-F AND THAT COMMUNISTS HAD FILED 5 NOTES WITH ICCS REQUESTING INVESTIGATION OF GVN OPERATIONS IN "LIBERATED AREA" (NYT). SAIGON COMMAND SAYS MOST OF 300 DEFENDERS OF LOST CAMPS MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED OR CAPTURED. SEMI-OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER SAYS GVN SENDING UP TO 3000 REINFORCEMENTS TO BATTLE AREA. RADIO SAIGON QUOTES SURVIVORS THAT AT LEAST 100 NVA KILLED IN BATTLE FOR CAMPS(WP; CSM; AP, PHINQ).

8. WILLIAMS REPORTS FROM SAIGON THAT COMMUNISTS FIRED 27 122MM ROCKETS INTO BIEN HOA AIR BASE, HEAVILY DAMAGING 4 JETS AND A WORKSHOP, KILLING 1 AND WOUNDING 9, WITH UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 219091

1 ROCKET LANDING NEAR ICCS QUARTERS. GVN SPOKESMAN DESCRIBES ATTACK AS BEGINNING OF OFFENSIVE AND CLEAR INDICATION THAT VC HAS "TORN UP" C-F. VC HAD WARNED EARLIER THAT THEY WOULD ATTACK AIRFIELDS IF GVN DID NOT STOP BOMBING THEIR AREAS (REUTER). SEIDEN IN SAIGON SAYS WAR APPEARS TO BE ESCALATING AND GETTING CLOSER TO CAPITAL WITH ATTACK ON BIEN HOA, WHICH APPEARED TO BE RETALIATION FOR HEAVY BOMBARDMENT OF SUSPECTED VC POSITIONS NEAR BIEN HOA 2 WEEKS AGO. AFTER THESE ATTACKS, VC ANNOUNCED AT WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THEY WOULD RETALIATE. GVN SPOKESMAN CALLS BIEN HOA ATTACK "CHALLENGE", "PROVOCATION" AND "SIGNAL FOR NEW GENERAL OFFENSIVE". US AND SVN OFFICIALS INCREASINGLY CONVINCED LATELY THAT NVA IS PLANNING MAJOR OFFENSIVE (THOUGH COMMUNISTS DENY IT) SINCE LEVEL AND INTENSITY OF FIGHTING INITIATED BY BOTH SIDES INCREASING STEADILY SINCE C-F (SUN).

9. MCARTHUR (LAT) WRITES THAT EMBASSY SAIGON ADMITS THAT IT RECOMMENDED CHANGE IN PL-480 PROGRAM THAT WILL GIVE SVN AN EXTRA 30 MILLION DOLLARS YEARLY. EXTRA FUNDS WILL BE FROM RELEASE OF COUNTERPART FORMERLY RESERVED FROM PL-480 SALES TO OFFSET SOME AMERICAN COSTS IN SVN. OLD SPLIT WAS 20 PERCENT OF PROCEEDS OF SALES TO EMBASSY FOR LOCAL EXPENSES, AND 80 PERCENT

TO GVN TO SUPPORT NATIONAL BUDGET IN VARIOUS WAYS.
NOW GVN GETS IT ALL TO HELP SEE IT THROUGH ECONOMIC
DIFFICULTIES AND PARTIALLY OFFSET ABRUPT DOLLAR LOSS
WITH DEPARTURE OF US TROOPS. US WILL HAVE TO BUY SAME
AMOUNT OF PIASTERS WITH DOLLARS, SO EXPENDITURES FOR
LOCAL CURRENCY WILL RISE FROM CURRENT 100 MILLION

DOLLAR LEVEL TO 130 MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY. EMBASSY
ACKNOWLEDGED CHANGE IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, BUT OFFERED
NO EXPLANATION WHY IT HAD NOT BEEN PUBLICIZED WHEN
MADE (PHINQ).

CHINA

10. NEW CHILEAN CHARGE ARRIVES IN PEKING TO REPLACE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 219091

FORMER ALLENDE ENVOY. CHILE REPORTEDLY CONSIDERS
PRC ACCEPTANCE OF CHARGE AS "TACIT" RECOGNITION.
PRC IS ONE OF MAIN PURCHASERS OF CHILEAN COPPER AND
SALTPETER (WP; AFP, NYT).

JAPAN

11. JOC'S CULLISON, IN TOKYO, REPORTS VIEW OF SPOKESMAN
FOR ONE OF 6 JAPANESE OIL COMPANIES THAT RECENT SUPPLY
CUTBACKS ANNOUNCED BY WORLD OIL MAJORS AND ARAB STATES
HAVE MADE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTINUE SUPPLY
OF JET FUEL TO FOREIGN AIRLINES SERVING JAPAN AND
TO US FORCES IN JAPAN. CULLISON SAYS JAPANESE AUTHORITIES
ARE WORRIED THAT US MAY COMPLAIN THAT CURTAILMENT
OF JET FUEL AND GASOLINE SUPPLIES FOR US FORCES COULD
BE CONSIDERED VIOLATION OF MST SPIRIT.

12. TEIKOKU OIL CO. ANNOUNCED MONDAY DISCOVERY OF
PROMISING NATURAL-GAS FIELDS ON CONTINENTAL SHELF
OFF JAPAN'S PACIFIC COAST. TEIKOKU SAYS IT AND ESSO
ABUKUMA, LED BY EXXON, ARE UNDERTAKING TEST BORINGS.
TESTS INDICATE PRODUCTION IS ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE
(CSM).

3. CULLISON (JOC) REPORTS JAPAN HAS STARTED PROGRAM
FOR LIFTING SOME OF ITS STIFF CONTROLS ON FOREIGN
EXCHANGE MOVEMENTS. TOYOTA SAYS IT WILL BUILD AUTO
COMPLEX IN NORTHERN PERU VALUED AT 50 MILLION DOLLARS
(WSJ).

14. CHICAGO "TRADE WITH JAPAN WEEK" IN FULL SWING.
CHICAGO ASSN. OF COMMERCE OPENS 3-DAY TRADE FAIR EXPECTED
TO DRAW 500 JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN AND

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE219091
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter:
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejow.tel
Line Count: 213
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <23-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOVEMBER 6, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
To: SAIGON INFO BANGKOK
CANBERRA
JAKARTA
KUALA LUMPUR
MANILA
MOSCOW
PHNOM PENH

RANGOON
SEOUL
SINGAPORE
TAIPEI
VIENTIANE
WELLINGTON
BIEN HOA
CAN THO
DANANG
HONG KONG
NHA TRANG
JEC PARIS
PEKING
USSAGE NAKHON PHNOM
CINCPAC HONOLULU
COVARD

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005